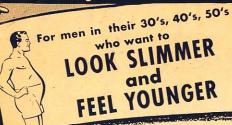


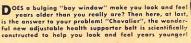


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Air-cooled! Scientifically designed and made to give wonderful support and protection!

Healthful, Enjoyable Abdominal Control

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It's great I you on wear "Chevalier" oil day long.
Will not bind or make you feel constricted. That's
because the two-way strice-tch cloth plus the
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"Chevalier" is designed according to scientific facts
of healinful posture control. It's made by experts
to give you the comfort and healthful "lift" you
want, Just see oil the wonderful features below.
And remember-you can get the "Chevalier" on
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TWO-WAY

S-T-P-F-T-C-H

WONDER CLOTH Firmly holds in your flabby abdomen; yet it s-t-r-e-t-c.h.e-s as you breathe.

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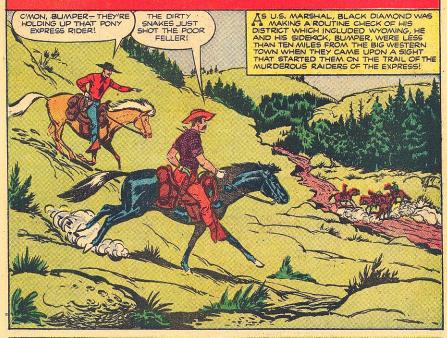
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# BLACK DIAMOND

in "The Strange Saga of the Missing Express Riders"





BLACK DIAMOND MIGHT HAVE CAUGHT THEM IN TIME, BUT HE HAD TO MAKE A MERCIFUL CHOICE-SO THE DESPERATE OUTLAW GAINS, LOU HOLLIS, NICK WILEY AND THEIR LEADER, ROCKY WEBB ESCAPED...













CHUCK BURTON CONTACTED THE APPLICANTS FOR THE EXPRESS RIDER'S JOB AND THREE TURNED UP EARLY IN THE AFTERNOON ...

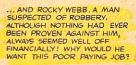


THREE MEN. EACH AFTER THE ONE JOB-EACH WANTING IT DESPERATELY AND EACH FOR A DIFFERENT REASON

HOWARD WORLEY HAD JUST BEEN MARRIED AND NEEDED A STEADY JOB.



JOE LANTON NEEDED THAT JOB AS BADLY AS ANYONE ... TROUBLE WAS JOE JUST COULDN'T STICK TO ANY JOB TOO LONG ...





NOW LOOK, I CAN'T USE THAT SHOULDN' ALL THREE OF YOU, SO .. BE TOO HARD . BLACK DIAMOND! MAYBE YOU BURTON! LET CAN HELP ME! I'M TRYING TO THEM FIGHT IT DECIDE WHICH ONE OF THESE OUT IN A CONTEST! MEN TO HIRE!



MAYBE YOU'D THAT'S A GOOD IDEA! I'LL MAKE UP THREE PACKAGES TO BE DELIVERED TO THE RAILROAD COMPANY! ONE OF 'EM WILL CONTAIN THE \$12,000 PAYROLL AND EVEN WHICH PACK THE MONEY'LL BE IN!

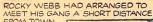




BLACK DIAMOND FOUND A FEW MOMENTS TO SWITCH THE CONTESTANTS PARCELS AROUND WHILE CHUCK BURTON WAS GIVING THE FOUR MEN FINAL INSTRUCTIONS











MEANWHILE, BLACK DIAMOND TRAILED SOME DISTANCE BEHIND, HOPING THE PONY EXPRESS RIDERS WOULD SHOW THEIR HAND...



IT TOOK THE OUTLAWS HALF AN HOUR TO CATCH UP WITH THE FIRST OF THE RIDERS - JOE LANTON ...







RIDING LIKE THE WIND - BLACK DIAMOND FOUND



















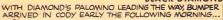


































BLACK DIAMOND AND BUMPER TRAILED CHUCK BURTON AND ROCKY WEBB TO A DESERTED HOUSE SEVERAL MILES FROM TOWN.

SO YOU THOUGHT YOU'D SKIP WITH ALL THE LOOT, BUR TON! THAT MONEY HAS TO BE SPLIT FOUR WAYS!

YOU'RE CRAZY WEBB! YOUR TWO BOYS GED SO WE SPLIT TWO WAYS!



CATCHING BLACK DIAMOND UN-AWARES, BURTON SWINGS ABOUT AND FIRES, GRAZING HIS HEAD.











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## INSPIRATIONAL ... INSTRUCTIVE

Now it's fun to do your homework and write letters with this type-writer. Ask stores in your neighborhood to let you do addressing and odd typing jobs at home. The money thus earned will go far towards paying for your typewriter. Iry writing your own stories like news-paper reporters and novelists do!

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you type, stays your letters with the NEW SPARES POINT pent Writing
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# BLACK DIAMOND

in "BLOODY GOLD"

TN BLACK DIAMOND'S TIME, BORDER TROUBLE MEANT DOUBLE TROUBLE...CATTLE RUSTLING, SMUGGLING, MURDER — A COMBINATION DEADLY ENOUGH FOR THE MOST COURAGEOUS TO FACE, BUT ADD TO THAT A CULTHROAT BAND OF MEN MYSTERIOUSLY INVOLVED WITH GOLD THEFTS AND CATTLE TRAFFIC. AND ONLY ONE MAN WHO WAS EQUIAL TO THE CHALLENGETHE FAMED MASKED MARSHAL, BLACK DIAMOND...



ALL IT TAKES TO FIND TROUBLE IS A LITTLE POKING AROUND AND TROUBLE WAS BLACK DIAMOND'S BUSI-NESS! THERE WAS A LOT OF IT IN 1873 IN THE ARIZONA TERRITORY, WHEN MEN LIVED FOR GOLD AND USED THEIR GUNS TO GET IT...











MY DEPUTY... PLANTED HIMSELF IN THE R-RING... (GASP!) HE WAS ON THE TRAIL OF THESE COUNTER. FEITERS, (GASP!), THEY MAKE MEXICAN GOLD COMS H-HERE IN THE STATES... THEN DELIVER EM 'CROSS THE BORDER FOR MEXICAN D-DISTRIBUTION!







HOURS LATER, AS BLACK DIAMOND'S EYES FOLLOW A TRAIL MOST TRACKERS WOULD HAVE LOST LONG AGO...







THIS'LL FINISH

THEY GOT HIM!

VOU, YOU MEDDLIN' HE'S GOING OVER
FOOL!

PILE CLIFF,
DIAMOND!

BANG

BANG

BANG



















GETS HIJACKED! THAT'S WHY HE'S
ALWAYS LOOKIN' FOR MORE GUN
HANDS LIKE THESE
FELLERS WERE!

WHO THE HIJACKERS
ARE?

ARE?

NO-THEM
CRITTERS WEREN'T
EASY TO TALK
TO-I'M STILL
LOOKIN' FOR
A DEPUTY TO
TAKE THE
PLACE OF THE
ONE THEY
KILLED LAST

MONTH

THEN THESE
BODIES ARE
NO NOVELTY,
EH? DO US A
FAVOR, SHERIFF!
BURY 'EM! WEVE
GOT SOMETHING
IMPORTANT TO,
DO BEFORE
NOON!



IT LOOKS TO

ME LIKE THE

HIJACKING

MIGHT BE AN

IN ORDER TO MAKE

HIJACKINGS HIMSELF,

HIJA

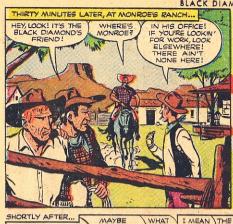
IN ORDER TO MAKE.
IT LOOK AS IF SOME.
BODY ELSE IS STEAL.
ING HIS GOLD SUP.
PLY-FOR COUNTER.
FEITING PURPOSES,
PERHAPS!



NO DICE, ALL THE BETTER! BUAPER! THEY'LL HAVE TO GUIN ME! SPOT YOU THAT'LL FORCE THE RATS INTO THE OPEN!

MEANWHILE, YOU'LL
KEEP AN EYE ON
THINGS FROM THE
OUTSIDE! THAT WAY,
WE'LL LEARN THEIR
OPERATIONS INSIDE
OUT-THAT'S A
JOKE, SON!
BY! TAKE CARE
BUMPER!







GOOD!

THATS

WHY







ARRIVED

I'D BETTER





DAN GETS MORE MONEY IN MEXI-









SOLI

DUMP HIM IN THE CHUCK WAGON! HE'LL COME IN REAL HANDY

AS A HOSTAGE IN CASE THE BLACK

YEAH! I'M CRAZY ABOUT YOUR

SO YOU'RE

BEHIND







ED'S A VERY TRUSTING







AN' WHAT COUNTERFEITIN'!) BUT HOW NONE IN THE EAST COULD DO YOU DO BETTER! IT'S A SECRET RUN THIS THAT'S ATRADE SECRET FORMULA! YOU BITE INTO STUFF MY THE LEAD - IT AIN'T SOFT! PAST THE FRIEND! MEXICAN PERHAPS LEAD IS STEEL! BORDER 'LL TELL GUARDS! OU, JUST BEFORE YOU DIE!



HOURS LATER, DIAMOND, WORKING ON THE OUTSIDE AS PLANNED,
APPROACHES THE GUARDED
MINE SHACKS...

THERE'S NO DOUBT OF IT NOW!
ALL TRAILS LEAD ME BACK TO
THE CIRCLE-TI HAMM-THERE
MUST BE SOMETHING VALUABLE
IN THOSE SHACKS TO DESERVE
SUCH VIGILANCE! I'LL HAVE
A LOOK!











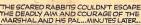




















BY TWILIGHT, THE BLACK DIAMOND WAS EXPLAINING THE WHOLE TREACHEROLS SCHEME TO THE INNOCENT VICTIMS.

REMEMBER WHEN YOU HE SNEAKED THE COUNTERFEIT SAID DAN'S CATTLE WERE COINS TO HIS MEXICAN ACCOMP WORTH THEIR WEIGHT LICES BY PASTING CANOUFLAGE

SAID DANS CATTLE WERE

COINS TO HIS MEXICAN ACCOMPLICES BY PASTINIS CAMOUFLAGE

PANELS CONTAINING THE BASE
YOU DON'T KNOW HOW

CLOSE YOU CAME TO
THE TRUTH!

AS WORTHLESS AS THE
COINS HE TRIED TO





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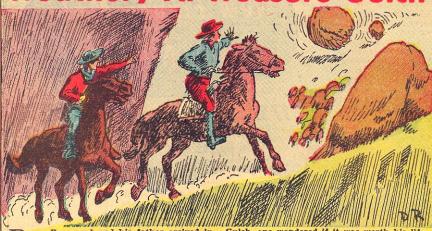
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MAIL COUPON NO

# Treachery At Treasure Gulch



oug Brenwood and his father arrived in Treasure Gulch after two years of unlucky prospecting. As they sounded out the prospects in the local saloon they learned that there was a reign of terror in Treasure Gulch. This was a sneaking, underhanded thing. The trouble was within the town, but no one knew where to point a finger. It followed a pattern. Big Bill, the bartender, continued with his story while Doug and his father listened attentively.

Treasure Gulch was well named because it had yielded many a treasure in gold, but inhabitants of the town were ready now to name it Forbidden Treasure Gulch. Several fortunate prospectors had hit the gulch and discovered its yield. The word spread and soon the place swarmed with humanity, all with the same disease — gold! But all those original prospectors were now gone. There was a curse on the gold.

Abe Stanton, the first man to file a claim, had been killed in a gun battle in the streets of town one night. No one knew who killed him. His claims were turned over and sold to the highest bidder, a company in the east. The company immediately sent a crew to work the mine and the gold still flowed from it. Later, another mine owner, Chippy Kearns fell down the shaft of his mine, the mine went into the hands of the receivers and again the company bought it out.

Then Bill Morton, who held one of the largest and richest claims in the gulch, was found drowned in the waters of Treasure Creek. People don't drown in creeks often and when this happened, there was some speculation. Again, the company bought the claims and the mine was working on a grandiose scale. Now, even though one was lucky enough to have a claim in Treasure

Gulch, one wondered if it was worth his life.

"And," concluded Big Bill, "I even wonder if it's worth while running a successful saloon. How do I know when I'll get the ax?"

Young Doug was alert and had been in the prospecting game long enough to wonder about several of the angles. "But what about the heirs to these mines?" he queried.

"That's a funny thing," answered Big Bill, "all the relatives of the prospectors who were killed were far away, and more interested in selling out than wandering clear out here to work a mine."

"Hello, Stranger," interrupted a voice which belonged to a grizzled prospector who had just swung through the doors.

"Hello there, Grubby," greeted Big Bill. Then, addressing the newcomers, he said, "Here's a man you might want to talk to. For an interest he'll grub stake you to equipment to work a mine. This is Grubby Scott."

Grubby was the local grub staker. For a certain percent of the yield he would stake prospectors to equipment. In fact, Doug learned, he had staked the three unlucky miners. When they were killed Grubby still had his percent of interest in the mines. Grubby explained that the money the company had offered for his interest was such a nice load of cash that he figured it was better to sell out than shoulder the expense of the mines.

The rumors of terror didn't bother Doug and his father too much. Gold was worth the risk. Years of prospecting had hardened them and off they set to find a claim. It wasn't long before Treasure Gulch lived up to its name. They staked a claim, filed, then went to Grubby for financial aid. Grubby, always willing to help the miners out as long as he got his percentage, figured this arm chair

way of mining was the simplest; do a minimum of work and be assured of a profit.

Doug and his father set to work with vehemence. With Grubby's equipment and hired miners, they sunk a shaft and started working the mine. To their delight and beyond their dreams, on assay the ore proved to be high grade, almost pure gold. Feeling that their fortunes were well established, Doug and his father left the mine early one day and started toward town.

As they followed the narrow trail back to town, suddenly, for no reason, Doug looked up the side of the mountain. He saw a large boulder start slowly rolling down the hill, headed straight for them. With no time for warning, Doug jumped from his horse toward his father, grabbed him around the waist and the two rolled off the side of the trail. At that moment, the boulder crashed down across the trail where they'd been riding a second before. Doug's father's horse was hit and fell over the side of the trail, crushed by the rolling boulder.

The two looked at each other in relief and amazement. Both had the same question in their eyes; was that an accident? Dusting themselves off they plodded on toward town and into the saloon.

Greeted by Big Bill and Grubby, they related their story. Everyone in the saloon gathered round, heads wagged in sympathy, and all agreed that it must have been an attempt at murder.

Doug and his father were not to be scared out of town that easily and continued to work the mine. They kept sharp vigilance all the time and the days that followed were nerve racking. No further attempts were made on Doug's or his father's life for several weeks and the two breathed in relief and hoped they could relax their continuous watch. One evening, the miners having stopped work, Doug was loading up a final bit of ore while he waited for his father to come down to the trail from the mine.

Out of sight of the mine, he suddenly heard a shot. He looked up and on the crest of the hill, too far for recognition. Doug saw a man. Doug drew his gun, fired, heard a scream, then the man turned and ran. Doug raced back to the mine to find his father lying at the entrance to the shaft. A bullet had gone into his shoulder and he had narrowly escaped falling down the shaft. Thankful to find his father alive and not seriously wounded, he carried him down to the wagon on the trail. His father comparatively comfortable, Doug went up to the crest of the hill to see if he could find any trace of the attacker. There wasn't a sign, the man had vanished, though there was a trail of blood leading down the hill. The trail of blood suddenly stopped, but there in the underbrush was a gun. Doug picked it up, examined it, then returned to the wagon.

Doug drove the wagon down the steep trail. As soon as they reached town, Doug had his father's wound examined. A bullet was pulled from his shoulder that, from all evidence, seemed to have been fired from the gun that Doug had found.

That evening, leaving his father well drugged and asleep, Doug went to the saloon. Grubby was there talking to Big Bill. Doug started to relate the tale of the afternoon's shooting when he noticed that Grubby kept his hand in his pocket all the time. This was unusual for Grubby because he usually smoked with one hand and handled his drink with the other. Still watching Grubby, Doug pretended to turn to a prospector and engage him in conversation. Grubby, not realizing that Doug was watching, pulled his hand out of his pocket and started to reach for his drink. Hastily, when he realized what he was doing, he drew it back. But Doug had noticed that his hand was heavily bandaged.

Doug whirled around to face Grubby. "What happened to your hand, Grub?"

"I, er, I was splitting some wood. Yeah, splitting wood today and slipped," chuckled Grubby.

"Didn't know you ever split wood," continued Doug as he swiftly walked toward Grubby, pulling him away from the bar. "And, where's your gun? That holster looks empty to me."

"I don't need a gun around this town," muttered Grubby.

"Maybe you don't need it, but I've never seen you without it," said Doug as he reached in his own holster and pulled out the gun he'd found on the hill. "Maybe this is the gun that belongs in there."

Grubby automatically but clumsily reached for the gun that wasn't there with the hand that wasn't wounded. This gave Doug time to swing and catch Grubby on the chin, knocking him cold as he fell across the bar.

Doug's suspicions were correct. The gun was Grubby's. The bullet had come from the gun. On further investigation, with Grubby safely behind bars, the whole story was revealed. Grubby, for a large percentage from the company was stationed in Treasure Gulch. He quietly disposed of the luck prospectors, 'innocently' sold out his holdings to the company for a large profit and then started in all over again.

After Grubby had been tried and found guilty of murder, the law successfully tracked down the owners of the company, and the legal wheels were rolling to return the original gold mines to their proper heirs, Doug and his father continued to work their mine. They built up a fortune in gold second to none in Treasure Gulch. Doug was the saviour of the town, the reign of terror was over and Treasure Gulch again lived up to its name.

"THE PHANTOM TRAIN"



DLACK DIAMOND WAS FACED WITH ONE OF THE MOST BAFFLING MYSTERIES OF HIS CAREER ONE DAY WHEN HE AND BUMPER WERE CROSSING THE MOUNTAINS TO THE GREAT MINING BOOM TOWN OF ORVILLE! IT WAS LATE AFTERNOON, AND THEY WERE A DOZEN MILES FROM THE TOWN WHEN IT HAPPENED...







I'M GOING BACK TO WHERE I CAN RIDE INTO THAT PASS BUMPER! YOU RIDE AHEAD AND BO THE SAME! I'LL GO THROUGH ONE END OF THE TUNNEL AND YOU COME BACK THROUGH THE OTHER! IT'LL BE DARK IN THERE SO LIGHT YOURSELF A TORCH!













AS BLACK DIAMOND TURNS TO WARN BUMPER HE IS SLUGGED FROM BEHIND ..



AND FALLS, CRASHING TO THE TRACKS.





THUS, FOUR MEN, JAKE BYRNES, GUS MAHLER, PAT RAND...AND THEIR LEADER, BULL TAIT WERE SOON TO MAKE AN ATTEMPT ON THE LIVES OF BLACK DIAMOND AND BUMPER ...



TEN MINUTES LATER, RELIAPON HEARD A ROAR-ING SOUND COMING FROM THE TUNNEL, AND SENSING DANGER, HE TRIES TO AROUSE BLACK DIAMOND

NEED AND

HELP

DIAMOND?

I'LL TAKE CARE

BUMPER! JUST KEEP YOUR

EYES OPEN!







RELIAPON REACHES BUMPER WITH THE ON-RUSHING TRAIN ONLY A FEW FEET AWAY...



















IT WAS NIGHTFALL WHEN THE TWO LAWMEN REACHED THE THE RUGGED MINING TOWN...

























ON OUR WAY OUT, SEVEN OF THESE MEN RODE FROM THE TUNNEL AND ATTACKED US,

HA! WE ATTACKED
THEM? THEM HOW

COME BILLY
SAUNDERS IS DEAD,
AND TWO OF MY
OTHER BOYS HURT?
CAUSE THIS MASKED
BANDIT AND HIS



.IT'S AT THE STATION RIGHT HERE IN ORVILLE! WHAT'S MORE I TAKE BULL TAIT'S WORD! HE OUGHT TO KNOW WHAT HAPPENED! HE'S THE ENGINEER OF THAT TRAIN AND THE MER WITH HIM ARE THE CREW! PUT THE CUFFS ON EM, BOYS!







IT WAS PAST MIDNIGHT WHEN DIAMOND AND BLUMPER HEARD THE TRAIN'S LOCOMOTIVE CHUG OUT OF THE ORVILLE STATION! IT WAS TIME TO ACT! DIAMOND'S SHRILL WHISTLE BROUGHT RE-LIAPON, LEADING EL LOBO TO HIS CELL WINDOW!





OH, I SEE! JEHOSHAPHAT, DIA-

MOND! YOU'VE SURE GOT











THEIR RIDE THROUGH THE DARKNESS TO THE GREAT TUNGSTON MINES TOOK DIAMOND AND BUMPER MOST OF THE MIGHT: AT THE MINE THEY SAW THE PHANTOM ORE TRAIN! HIDING IN NEARBY HILLS THE LAWMEN WATCHED THE CARS BEING LOADED! THEN, SEEING TAID THE TRAIN THEY SLIP PED DOWN TO THE TRAIN.



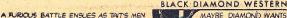


SOON THE ORE TRAIN CAME TO A STOP IN THE CENTER OF THE TUNNEL! THE LAWMEN FROM THE HIDING PLACE SAW A SEG TION OF THE WALL SWING IN AND MANY WORKMEN EMERGE...













BLACK DIAMOND STARTED BACKING THE TRAIN TOWARDS THE CAVERN ENTRAN-CE! TAIT AND HIS THREE CRONIES FRANTICALLY RAN TO GET OUTSIDE FIRST ...



HA! HA! THIS IS THE DURNDEST









A COUPLE OF HOURS LATER THE SHERIFF AND TOWNS-PEOPLE, HEARING THE TRAIN WHISTLE BLOWING STEADILY, RUSHED TO THE STATION TO SEE WHAT WAS WRONG ...

TALK, TAIT! TELL THE TRUTH, OR SO HELP ME, I'LL START THE ENGINE AGAIN!



WE'D LIKE WE'LL BE BACK THIS TO GIVE YOU WAY SOMETIME, SHERIFF A REAL BIG TUCKER! RIGHT NOW THERE'S SOME TROUBLE SENDOFF. DIAMOND! UP IN TUCSON







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Approved for training under G. I. Bill

